

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 /074 W

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R 051006Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7478

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EINV, CT

SUBJECT: SCED DISPUTE

REF: (A) BANGUI 1407; (B) YAOUNDE 2800

1. DDI DIRECTOR COPPERMAN TOLD ME SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN FROM A MEETING IN NEW YORK WITH JOLIS THAT JOLIS HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT EMISSARY, WHOM PRESIDENT BOKASSA SAID HE WAS GOING TO DESIGNATE IN MY JULY 26 MEETING, WOULD BE COMING TO US TO DISCUSS SCED DISPUTE AS WELL AS OTHER OUTSTANDING ECONOMIC ISSUES. IN FACT, EMISSARY PROPOSAL CAME UP IN CONTEXT OF OTHER ISSUES AND IS NOT RELATED TO SCED. WHILE DEPARTMENT COULD APPROPRIATELY TAKE SCED DISPUTE UP WITH AN EMISSARY AND PERHAPS ENCOURAGE HIM TO MEET JOLIS, THERE IS NO LIKELIHOOD OF SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS THROUGH SUCH A REPRESENTATIVE. IF SCED WISHES TO MOVE THE DISPUTE TOWARDS RESOLUTION IT WILL ULTIMATELY HAVE TO DESIGNATE REPRESENTATIVE FROM DDI AND/OR COMINCO TO NEGOTIATE WITH BOKASSA IN BANGUI. ASSUMING BOKASSA DOES FOLLOW THROUGH WITH A REPLY TO FORMER SECRETARY ROGERS' LETTER, IT IS LIKELY HE WILL

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PROPOSE DISCUSSIONS IN BANGUI. I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT

SCED MANAGEMENT RESPOND POSITIVELY. I WOULD HOPE DEPARTMENT COULD CLARIFY WITH JOLIS PROBABLE ROLE OF PRESIDENTIAL EMISSARY.

2. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE CANADIAN AMBASSADOR CHATILLON IS PLANNING EARLY VISIT TO BANGUI. WE WILL BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH HIM, AND HOPEFULLY HIS MEETINGS WITH BOKASSA AND OTHER OFFICIALS WILL PROVIDE FURTHER INSIGHTS INTO CURRENT GOCAR THINKING ON SCED DISPUTE. QUANTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIAMONDS, DISPUTES, MINING INDUSTRY, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGUI01475
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760305-0264
From: BANGUI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760885/aaaacwmp.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BANGUI 1407, 76 YAOUNDE 2800
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SCED DISPUTE
TAGS: EINV, CT, SCED, (COPPERMAN), (BOKASSA, JEAN BEDEL), (JOLIS, PAUL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006